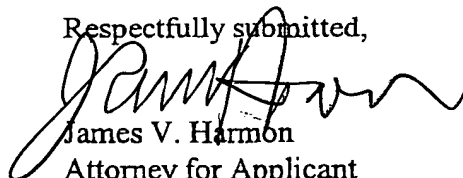


REMARKS

Without conceding the grounds for rejection of claims 1-4, these claims as well as 10-18 have been canceled in view of the allowance and allowability of the remaining uncanceled claims of similar scope. The applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of claims 20 and 21 and the allowability of claims 9, 19, 22-24. Claims 1-4 are now being canceled without prejudice and claims 9, 19, and 22-24 have been amended to place them in independent form by including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claims 9, 19, and 22-24 are believed to be in condition for immediate allowance. Claims 20 and 21 were previously allowed.

A copy of the amendments marked VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE and a clean copy of the claims as now amended are enclosed for the Examiner's consideration. All of the remaining claims are now believed to be in condition for immediate allowance. Favorable consideration and a prompt notice of allowance is therefore believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James V. Harmon
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 18,940
(612) 339-1400

US BANK PLAZA Suite 2000
220 South Sixth Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402

CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING

I certify this correspondence was deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, First Class Mail, with sufficient postage attached thereto, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 11 30 2006.


James V. Harmon

11 30 2006
Date

JVH/lts